

1     COMPENSATING FOR DRIFT AND SENSOR PROXIMITY IN A SCANNING  
2     SENSOR, IN COLOR CALIBRATING INCREMENTAL PRINTERS  
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5     ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE  
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7           To compensate for color-calibration sensor drift, a  
8     measurement of bare-print-medium tonal value is taken in  
9     immediate time juxtaposition to each color test pattern;  
10    measured bare-medium tone is then used to correct color-  
11    patch readings. A line sensor or the like, on the scan-  
12    ning printhead carriage, is used for the reading. Pref-  
13    erably two such readings are taken, one at each end of  
14    each test pattern; ideally separate scans of the bare me-  
15    dium are taken without any test-pattern patch to develop  
16    longterm and short-term drift profiles, for refining the  
17    corrections. To compensate for calibration error due to  
18    runout in the carriage track — particularly for wide-bed  
19    printers — sensor response to bare medium is used to rep-  
20    resent variations in carriage-to-medium spacing along the  
21    track; these variations are corrected in later sensor use.